Appl. No.

09/976,665

Filed

October 10, 2001

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows. Insertions are shown <u>underlined</u> while deletions are struck through.

1-3 (canceled)

4 (currently amended): A left-turn driving support system for supporting a driver of a vehicle waiting to make a left turn at an intersection where vehicles travel on the right side of a road, comprising a light reflecting material which reflects light from blinking signals of a turn signal of a second oncoming vehicle following a first oncoming vehicle, which are about to enter the intersection, wherein said light-reflecting material is installed on a road surface linearly along the centerline of the road and is longer than the length of the second oncoming vehicle to receive light of a left-turn signal of the second oncoming vehicle and reflect the light to the waiting vehicle, whereby the driver of the waiting vehicle can see the reflectingreflected light, wherein said light-reflecting material is an optical fiber having two ends which senses the blinking signals of the turn signal from one end facing a side of the second oncoming vehicle and reflects the light from the other end facing a front of the waiting vehicle, said one end being installed on a side of the road, and said other end being installed near the intersection.

5-10 (canceled)

11 (currently amended): A method for supporting a driver of a vehicle waiting to make a left turn at an intersection where vehicles travel on the right side of a road, comprising

sensing blinking signals of a turn signal of a second oncoming vehicle following a first oncoming vehicle, which are about to enter the intersection; and

reflecting light toward the driver of the vehicle waiting to make a left turn, wherein the driver is able to visually check the reflected light, and the sensing and reflecting steps are conducted using an optical fiber having two ends which senses the blinking signals of the turn signal from one end facing a side of the second oncoming vehicle and reflects the light from the other end facing a front of the waiting vehicle and is installed on a road surface linearly along the centerline of the road and is longer than the length of the second oncoming vehicle to sense light of a left-turn signal of the second oncoming vehicle and reflect the light to the waiting vehicle, wherein said one end is installed on a side of the road, and said other end is installed near the intersection;

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the driver making a left turn when the driver deems conditions to be safe taking into consideration, the presence or absence of the light reflected.

12-14 (canceled)